

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:EJSTREATOR/ACDA:TMCNAMARA:RM

APPROVED BY EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN

S/S:MR. MOFFAT

C:RBLACKWILL

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250537

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR, CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE/MBFR LINKAGE

REFS: USNATO 6225; USNATO 6186

1. WE DO NOT WISH TO MAKE EXTENSIVE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON NATO/IS WORKING PAPER ON REVERSE LINKAGE, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THERE IS PERHAPS TOO MUCH RELIANCE IN THE PAPER ON VAGUE REFERENCES TO "PUBLIC OPINION" TO JUSTIFY SOME OF THE CONCLUSIONS. OUR ONLY SUGGESTED CHANGE IS TO REPLACE "US" (IN OPTION C, DISADVANTAGE IV) WITH THE PHRASE "THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN MBFR" AND IN THE SAME SENTENCE INSERT THE ORIGINAL DRAFT LANGUAGE "IN ESTABLISHING AND INSURING THE EFFECTIVE WORKING OF ANY LINKAGE" (NATO 5946), FOR THE

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PRESENT LANGUAGE "IN ANNOUNCING AND ENFORCING THE LINKAGE."

LATEST VERSION (USNATO 6225) REFLECTS A USEFUL EFFORT TO DEFINE ISSUES AND OPTIONS IN LINE WITH ORIGINAL US OBJECTIVE OF STIMULATING A DETAILED ALLIANCE REVIEW OF LINKAGE PROBLEM. AS APPROPRIATE, US REP SHOULD CONTINUE TO STRESS THAT US RETAINS AN OPEN MIND ON LINKAGE AND HAS WELCOMED ALLIED EFFORT TO CLARIFY INTERRELATIONSHIPS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR TACTICAL INTERPLAY BETWEEN TWO NEGOTIATIONS.

2. RE NEXT STEPS, WE SEE NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY REACHING FORMAL NAC DECISION TO CARRY DISCUSSION OF LINKAGE OVER

INTO DECEMBER 12-13 MINISTERIAL MEETING OR MAKING IS STUDY A FOCUS FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF EAST-WEST ISSUES. RATHER, WE BELIEVE PAPER SHOULD BE COMPLETED SOONEST AND SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION AND NOTING BEFORE MINISTERIAL SESSION AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY MINISTERS OR LUNS MAY WISH TO REFER TO IT IN COURSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON EAST-WEST ISSUES AT MINISTERIAL SESSION.
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